THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Nationalisation of Bengal Potteries Ltd.

536. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleaed to state:

(a) whether Government are considering nationalisation of Bengal Potteries Ltd.: and

(b) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The decision to denotify the undertaking was taken only after the Central Government, having considered the report of the Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) and various other options for revival, had come to the conclusion that it was not possible to make it economically viable.

Video Cassettes provoking communal riots

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that uncensored video cassettes which provoke communal riots and hatred are in circulation on a very large scale; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to seize these video cassettes and to punish the authors and producers of these cassettes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are vested with adequate powers to take appropriate action in this regard. The Central Government has also issued instructions from time to time to them to enforce the concerned legal provisions.

Bank papers of A.E. services handed over to CBI

538. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when the Swiss Federal Court decided in favour of the bank papers of the A.E. Services being handed over to the CBI for further investigations;

(b) whether Government has undertaken follow-up action since then; if so, with what results; and

(c) when Government received the secret portions of the Swedish National Audit Bureau Report and what follow-up action has been taken and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFFNCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) On 13th Nov., 1990.

(b) According to the CBI, necessary follow-up action is being taken by it. The investigations are in progress.

(c) The secret portion of the Swedish National Audit Bureau Report was received on 24 Dec. 1990 and necessary follow-up action has been taken. The details thereof cannot be disclosed as the matter is still under investigation.

Para-Military forces deployed in Ayodhya

539. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which various paramilitary forces were deployed in Uttar

Pradesh for stopping kar seva in Ayodhya on the 30th October last;

(b) whether these forces had pellet guns also;

(c) if not, the reasons for which several kar sevaks were hospitalised with pellet wounds; and

(d) whether some outsiders had donned the uniforms of para-military forces|PAC etc. and mingled with them and fired at the kar sevaks; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Maintenance of "Public Order" is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government do not generally have such details. However, 198 Companies of para-military forces were placed at the disposal of Govt. of UP.

Bodies of Ram Bhaktas found from Saryu River

540. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bodies of Ram Bhaktas from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, etc. have been found from Saryu river in Ayodhya after the 30th October, and 2nd November, 1990 with pellet bullet wounds and their hands and waist tide to bags and earthen jars filled with sand so that the dead bodies of Ram Bhaktas may not float and evidence of killings may be erased;

(b) if so, the names of such persons, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government would fix the responsibility of shooting them and later drowning the bodies in this manner in Saryu river and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government and the same would be laid on the Table of the House.

Telecasting the views of religious personalities on Ram Janambhoomi issue

541. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of times Shahi Imam of Delhi was shown on TV and his views telecast in the context of the Ram Janambhoomi Temple issue datewise; and

(b) the names of Shankracharyas and other Hindu religious saints who were similarly shown on TV and views of the other side on the Ram Janambhoomi issue telecast recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Shahi Imam of Delhi was covered by Doordarshan in its news bulletins six times, including three times in visual on 14-10-90, 23-10-90, 24-10-90, 3-11-90, 6-11-90 and 16-11-90.

(b) The names of Shankracharyas and other Hindu religious saints are as under:

Shankracharya of Jyoti Math Jagatguru and

Shankracharya Niranjan Dev Tirath of Puri

Mahant Lal Das

Mahant Sewa Das

Swami Harinarayanand

Swami Prasananji

Swami Vishwesh Teerathji